

12.142 MOUNTED SQUAD

References:

Procedure 12.020 - Uniforms, Related Equipment, and Personal Grooming
Procedure 12.035 - Reporting Police Vehicular Accidents and Damage
Procedure 19.105 - Sick/Injured with Pay and Special Leaves

Purpose:

Familiarize Department personnel with the functions and capabilities of the Mounted Squad.

General Information:

The effectiveness of the mounted unit depends upon intelligent use of its capabilities. The Mounted Squad supervisor or officer will decide which services the horse and rider are capable of providing.

Mounted units are extremely mobile. They quickly cover terrain which hinders vehicles or foot officers (e.g., housing projects, heavily congested areas, parks, woods, etc.).

Mounted units can provide all patrol functions except transporting personnel or prisoners. Only in emergency situations will the mounted officer leave the horse unattended.

Procedure:

A. Mounted Squad Uses:

1. Foot pursuit situations
2. Provide increased police presence in high crime areas
3. Search for missing persons, suspects, or physical evidence in large or wooded areas
4. Crowd control situations
 - a. A district supervisor may request a mounted unit respond to the scene of a crowd. Often the presence of a mounted unit can prevent an escalation of the situation.
5. Respond to spontaneous incidents anywhere in the city. Response time is approximately 45 minutes depending upon available personnel and transportation.
 - a. Mounted units will not respond outside the city limits except at the direction of a police captain or above.
6. Respond to incidents occurring in their assigned areas

B. Requests for Mounted Squad Response:

1. Request mounted units through Police Communications Section (PCS) for situations outlined in Section A. PCS will notify the Mounted Squad or Park Unit supervisor.
2. Submit a Form 17 through channels to the Support Bureau Commander for planned events or when expecting large crowds.

C. Personal Injury/Property Damage by Police Horses:

1. If injury involves a Department employee, refer to Procedure 19.105, Section E.
2. If property damage is Department property, refer to Procedure 12.020, Section G.
3. If injury/damage is to other than Department personnel/property, refer to Procedure 12.035, Section C.